

Excess exploitation of groundwater

1860. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether water resources in many parts of the country are under severe stress leading to excessive exploitation of groundwater;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the measures taken for greater efficiency in water use, especially in agriculture sector?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) Ground water is used for drinking, irrigation and various other purposes, due to which ground water levels in some parts of the Country are declining. Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) under the Ministry of Water Resources monitors ground water levels on regional basis, four times a year through a network of 15653 ground water monitoring wells located in the Country. Ground water level monitoring data of Pre-monsoon 2013, compared with decadal mean of Pre-monsoon (2003-2012), indicate that out of 10121 wells analysed 5688 wells have shown decline. Details are given in Statement Refer to the Statement appended to the Answer to USQ No. **1849** (Part (a)).

(c) As per the report of the National Commission for Integrated Water Resources Development, the overall irrigation efficiency of surface water projects could be enhanced from present level of about 35-40% to about 60% through improvement in water conveyance efficiency as well as water application efficiency. Findings of several studies reported from time to time also indicate that through proper management of the canal system, the irrigation efficiency could be increased up to 15%. Emphasis is laid on extension, renovation and modernization (ERM) of the irrigation projects with a view to fully utilizing the created irrigation potential,

improving the water use efficiency and enhancing the irrigation potential. Government of India provides assistance for ERM projects under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP). Government of India also provides assistance to States under the scheme “Command Area Development and Water Management (CAD and WM)” with the objective of ensuring optimal utilisation of the created facilities and thereby improving the water use efficiency etc.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय उपसभापति जी, जिस तरह से ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Short Notice Question, Shri Y.S. Chowdary. ...(Interruptions)... Short Notice Question. ...(Interruptions)... No slogan shouting. ...(Interruptions)... There is an understanding. ...(Interruptions)... There is an understanding among the leaders of the party that slogan shouting is not allowed. ...(Interruptions)... It is not allowed. ...(Interruptions)... Please, go back. ...(Interruptions)... Please, go back. ...(Interruptions)... It is not allowed. ...(Interruptions)... Don't do that. ...(Interruptions)... It won't go on record. ...(Interruptions)...

Declaration of irrigation projects as National Projects

SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state;

- (a) The details of irrigation project declared/being declared a National Project across the country during the last five years;
- (b) Whether the Government is also considering to declare Indira Sagar Polavaram Project as National Project; and
- (c) If so, the details thereof; and
- (d) If not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) Government of India declared 14 projects as National Projects in February, 2008.